



**OPCW**

**Executive Council**

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21 and 23 January 2015

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ENGLISH only

**POLAND**

**STATEMENT BY MR SZYMON BOCHEŃSKI  
DEPUTY-PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF POLAND TO THE OPCW  
AT THE FORTY-EIGHTH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Mr Chairperson, Director-General, Excellencies, distinguished delegates,

Poland fully aligns itself with the statement of the European Union.

Poland reiterates its deep concern over findings of the second report of the OPCW Fact-Finding Mission, which concluded with a high degree of confidence that chlorine has been used as a weapon in the Syrian Arab Republic. The third report only reinforced that concern by providing additional information on the methodology used by the FFM in the investigation.

My delegation made it clear that the OPCW as a global watchdog of the prohibition of chemical weapons should condemn the use of chemical weapons without conditions. The Executive Council so far has been unable to speak with one voice on this issue. Therefore Poland supports efforts aimed at addressing it without further delay. We must also ensure that those responsible for the violation of international norms prohibiting the use of chemical weapons are held accountable. The FFM confirmed also the existence of new victims of chemical weapons. As an international community we have the responsibility to act and consider means of extending necessary aid to the injured people.

Poland reaffirms its support for the Director-General to continue the investigation carried out by the Fact-Finding Mission. We deem it necessary to examine all allegations pointing at the possible use of toxic chemicals in the Syrian Arab Republic.

Poland joins other delegations in welcoming the ratification of the Chemical Weapons Convention by the Myanmar parliament. We look forward to another step towards the universality of the Convention and welcoming the new State Party.

I request that this statement be circulated as an official document of this session.

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